



**County of San Diego**

**Department of Agriculture, Weights and Measures**

## **Organic Farming FAQs**

### **How do I become recognized as an Organic grower?**

All growers, producers, handlers of raw agricultural commodities (including eggs, seed, fiber and horticulture products) sold as organic, must be registered prior to the first sale of the commodity.

### **I grow in San Diego County. How do I become registered?**

Call 858.694.2778 - San Diego County, Department of Agriculture, Weights and Measures. The County reviews all forms and assign a registration number after the applicant has complied with all State laws.

### **I grow in a County other than San Diego. How do I become registered?**

Contact the Agricultural Commissioner in the County where the applicant's property is located for an application.

### **What does the registration process require?**

The registrant must pay a registration fee and furnish the following information with their application:

1. Gross sales revenue (to determine fees).
2. Nature of registrant's business (Producer, Handler, Processor).
3. Map of farm or facility.
4. List of all substances applied to farm for the past three years.
5. Name of certifying organization if applicable.
6. Complete public information sheet including the registrant's name, address, and nature of business.

### **When will the registrant receive approval and who will issue it?**

The registrant will receive their registration from the County's Agricultural Commissioner upon review and acceptance of the application.

### **Must a producer or handler re-register each year?**

The registration must be renewed each year. A renewal packet is sent from California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA) Organic Program, but it is the registrant's responsibility to make sure their registration does not expire.

### **How does certification differ from registration?**

Certification is performed by a third party organization; approval for certification subjects the registrant to more scrutiny than the registration process.

### **For more information on Organic Farming, visit:**

[http://www.cdfa.ca.gov/is/i\\_&c/organic.html](http://www.cdfa.ca.gov/is/i_&c/organic.html)

<http://www.sarep.ucdavis.edu/Organic/index.htm>